b.) Remarks

Claims 1-9, 11-27, and 29-41 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 26, and 39-41 have been amended in various particulars as indicated hereinabove. Claims 10 and 28 have been cancelled.

Applicants have amended claim 1 by reciting that the script URL resolution component causes execution of the script code to obtain the script URL. Similarly, Applicants have amended claims 26 and 39-41 by reciting that the examining step obtains the script URL by executing the script code.

These features are disclosed in the application as originally filed, e.g., original claim 10 and 28.

In view of the above amendments, claims 10 and 28 have been cancelled.

Rejection under 35 USC 102(e)

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3, 5-13 and 15-41 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e), alleging that these claims are anticipated by Stern et al (US 2002/0052928; hereinafter called "Stern"). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this rejection for the reasons set out below based on the above amended claims.

Claims 1 and 26

The present invention as recited in amended claim 1 provides a URL resolution system comprising a website crawler and a script URL resolution component. The website crawler crawls a website and locates script code that is used to dynamically create at least one script URL. The script URL resolution component causes examination and execution of the script code located during the crawling to obtain the script URL. Amended claim 26 recites the corresponding method.

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In contrast, Stern does not disclose such a URL resolution system or method. Stern discloses how to collect links from a Web page when the page contains script code. Stern extracts from the script "anything that looks like a URL, without the need to understand or parse "correctly" the script" (paragraph 0115). To this end, Stern uses three steps: Extract from the script all tokens that are enclosed in quotes, Discard tokens that contain any white space characters, and discard tokens that do not end in .html, .htm or .asp (paragraphs 0116-018). Examples of this three-step extraction approach are described in paragraphs 0119-0140. This extraction approach uses pattern matching. The problems of such pattern matching include that it may miss URLs in the script code and it does not always extract the entire URL correctly, as described in paragraph 0006 of the present application.

In Item 9 on page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner appears to consider that this three-step extraction approach and the "pruning" process described in paragraphs 0115-0144 of Stern correspond to the execution of the script code of the present invention. Applicant notes that the three-step extraction approach simply extracts tokens and discards tokens that do not fulfill certain conditions. This approach does not involve any execution of the tokens or script code.

The pruning technique described in paragraph 0144 "prunes out links that are deemed to be useless" because "[i]t is not efficient and sometimes not feasible for the Crawler 11 to visit every page of every site it crawls". As shown in Figure 2, this pruning (step 19) is carried out by the Crawler 11 based on the links that have been collected by the three step extraction (step 21). The pruning step is not part of the link collecting process. If a link is missed during the extraction step, the Crawler 11 would not know the existence of such a link and cannot visit or prune it. This paragraph also does not disclose execution of script code to locate links during the link collecting process.

Accordingly, Stern fails to disclose or suggest execution of the script code to obtain the script URL. Applicant trusts that the invention as claimed in amended claims 1 and 26 has been patentably distinguished from Stern.

Claims 2, 3, 5-13 and 15-38

Claims 10 and 28 has been cancelled.

Claims 2, 3, 5-13 and 15-25 directly or indirectly depend on amended claim 1. Claims 27 and 29-38 directly or indirectly depend on amended claim 26. Accordingly, the same arguments as above apply to these claims. Applicant trusts that these claims have been also patentably distinguished from Stern.

Claims 39-41

Claims 39-41 correspond to amended claim 26. Accordingly, Applicant trusts that these claims have been also patentably distinguished from Stern.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-13, 15-27, and 29-41 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. 102(e).

Rejection under 35 USC 103(a)

The Examiner has rejected claims 4 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), alleging that these claims are unpatentable over Stern in view of Meyerzon et al (US 6,424,966, hereinafter called "Meyerzon").

As discussed above, Stern fails to disclose or suggest execution of script code to obtain script URLs.

Meyerzon is directed to the processing and maintenance of electronic information retrieved from electronic documents stored on a computer network. The system of Meyerzon keeps the data in the data store current by accepting notifications of when a

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previously retrieved document has changed. Meyerzon does not disclose URL resolution or execution of script code to obtain script URLs.
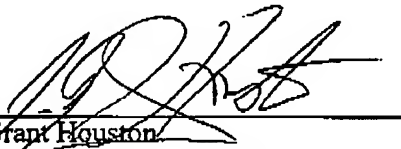
Accordingly, a person skilled in the art would not combine Stern and Meyerzon for URL resolution, and even if he attempts to do so, he would still fail to execute script code and would not reach to a URL resolution system and method as recited in claims 4 and 14 or other claims.

Therefore, Applicants trust that the invention as claimed in the claims currently on file has been patentably distinguished over the cited references.

Applicants trust that the application is now in condition for allowance. Early favourable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Should any questions arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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